GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2301
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
BAN ON AYURVEDIC MEDICINES IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether European Union contemplates to ban Ayurvedic medicines of India in the European countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to safeguard the interests of Ayurvedic firms?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b): The European Union are proposing to introduce regulation procedure for the import of Ayurvedic drugs for which intending exporters have to provide information on safety etc. Different parameters are being worked out depending upon the use of these drugs in European Union or outside.

(c): The following steps have been taken to safeguard the interests of the Ayurvedic firms:

1. The Government has established National Medicinal Plants Board for integrated development of medicinal plants sector.

2. Government have sent official delegations comprising trade representatives to various countries to promote ISM&H drugs.

3. Government is also supporting industry to participate in International Trade Fairs to exhibit their products. Schemes are also in place for funding market surveys.

4. Labeling provisions have been relaxed to facilitate exports.

5. Testing facilities are being expanded.
6. Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) have been notified.

7 This Department`s Research Councils are carrying on research of ISM&H drugs.

8. Department of Biotechnology has also supported research and development projects on medicinal and aromatic plants used in the country.

9. A Task Force has been set up to make recommendations for increasing exports.